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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

Huxley Memorial.—Since the first meeting of the General Committee on November 27, which was fully reported by the Press, two meetings of the Executive Committee have been held.

At the first of these, at which Lord Shand accepted the office of Chairman, it was reported that a number of foreigners of eminence had expressed a wish to be associated with the proposal to commemorate Mr. Huxley's distinguished services to humanity. It was resolved, in the first instance, to invite subscriptions from the members of the General Committee.

At the second meeting, held on December 18, it was reported that the subscriptions, which at the General Meeting had amounted to £557, had been increased to about £1,400, and it was resolved that a wider appeal for subscriptions should now be made to the friends and admirers of Mr. Huxley amongst the general public. The sum subscribed now exceeds £1,500.

The Honorary Secretary stated that in America Committees were in the course of being formed to promote the realization of an adequate fund.

The Committee resolved to communicate, by means of a sub-committee of their number, with Mr. Onslow Ford, R. A., who had the advantage of being well acquainted with Mr. Huxley, in reference to the statue, which it is proposed should be erected beside those of Darwin and Owen in the Natural History Museum, South Kensington.

The extent to which the Committee may be able to carry out the other intended objects of founding exhibitions, scholarships, and medals for biological research and lectureships, and possibly in assisting the republication of Mr. Huxley's scientific works, will, of course, depend on the subscriptions which may now be received.

Meehans' Monthly is a magazine for the lovers of gardening; and covers the whole field of general intelligence in so far as it may have the remotest bearing on the chief topics it sets out to advance. For instance, a beautiful Prang colored plate of some wild flower is given every month, with a description which illustrates the whole ground of classical history that has any bearing on the topic. Information on the most diversified topics abound. Corn from Indian mounds will not grow—swamps that are real swamps are among the healthiest of localities. There is no sickness in the great dismal swamp of Virginia.

Elderberry root is found to be a deadly poison. Foul water is pronounced to be a self-purifier, because bacteria eat out vegetable matter and then die of starvation. The hickory and the chestnut are proven cousin—Germans. Weeds are useful, by forcing the cultivator to work to aerate the soil. Illustrations of a curious maze, formed of yew hedges at Hampton Court, pruning and keeping trees from insects, chrysanthemum culture, and practical information on fruits and flowers are among the topics treated. Sample copies may be had of the publishers, Thomas Meehan & Sons, Germantown, Philadelphia.

In the January *Monist*, of importance to students of evolution will be the article on *Germinal Selection*, by the famous German biologist, Prof. August Weismann, of Freiburg. In the theory of germinal selection, Prof. Weismann propounds a doctrine which rounds off and perfects, as he claims, the theories of Darwin and Wallace, and which consists essentially in applying the principle of the struggle for life to the minutest parts of organization, viz., to the germinal and determinant particles generally. Weismann's article is a complete summary of the present status of the discussions in evolutionary theory, and will itself doubtless constitute one of the most important recent acquisitions to biological science.

Abnormal pleasures and pains are treated by Prof. Th. Ribot, who applies to their explanation the pathological method, using diseases as a means of analysis. His results as regards the pleasure which some people take in pain are highly interesting.

The fourth annual meeting of University Extension and other students will be held in the four weeks beginning July 6, 1896, in the buildings of the University of Pennsylvania. The Summer Meeting combines the advantages of an ordinary summer school with the co-operative feature which distinguishes conventions, or associations, in which there are representatives of many universities and colleges.

Professor E. Selenka, of Erlangen, has resigned his position in order that he may make a scientific journey. He has been appointed Honorary Professor of Zoology in Munich. His place at Erlangen is temporarily filled by Dr. Albert Fleischmann.

The Paris Academy of Science has recently elected the following corresponding members: Dr. G. Retzius, of Stockholm, as successor to Carl Vogt; and Prof. R. Bergh, of Copenhagen, as successor to Huxley.

Dr. F. Miescher, Professor of Physiology in the University of Basel, died at Davos, Switzerland, Aug. 26, 1895, aged 51 years. Dr. Rudolf Metzner, of Freiburg i B., has been appointed his successor.

Dr. Felix Hoppe-Seyler, Professor of Physiological Chemistry in the University of Strassburg, died in Wassenburg, on the Lake of Constance, Aug. 11, 1895, aged 70 years.

The Australian Association for the Advancement of Science, will hold its annual meeting at Sydney, Jan. 3 to 10, 1896. Professor A. Liversedge is the President.

The Berlin Academy of Science has elected Professors K. W. von Gümbel, K. A. von Zittel, A. Cossa, and Mr. Alexander Agassiz as corresponding members.

Dr. R. Krause, who formerly had charge of the Anthropological Section of the Museum Godfroy in Hamburg, died in Schwerin, Mecklenburg, July 25, 1895.

Dr. A. Schaper, of Zürich, has been appointed instructor in Histology and Embryology in the Harvard Medical School.

Ernst Baumann, formerly head of the station of Misahöhe, West Africa, died in Cologne, Sept. 4, 1895, aged 24 years.

Professor Hellriegel, botanist and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station in Bernburg, died Sept. 24, 1895.

F. Nies, Professor of Mineralogy and Geology in the Agricultural School of Hohenheim, is dead at the age of 56.

Dr. Herman Credner has been advanced to the Ordinary Professorship of Geology in the University of Leipzig.

Dr. V. Rohon has been appointed Extraordinary Professor of Histology in the Bohemian University in Prag.

Dr. Valentin Häcker has been advanced to Extraordinary Professor of Zoology in the University of Freiburg.

Dr. Emil Yung is the successor of the late Carl Vogt as Professor of Zoology in the University of Geneva.

Dr. Moritz Willkomm, formerly Professor of Botany in Prag, died Aug. 26, in Wortenburg, Bohemia.

Dr. Kallies of Göttingen, has been promoted to Extraordinary Professor of Anatomy in Tübingen.

Joseph Thompson, African explorer and geologist, died in London, Aug. 2, 1895, aged 37 years.

Dr. F. Reinitzer, of Prag, has been appointed Extraordinary Professor of Botany in Graz.

Mr. R. Trimen has resigned his position as Director of the Cape Town (Africa) Museum.

L. Perry Arcas, entomologist, died in Requena, Spain, Sept. 24 1895, aged 70 years.

Dr. D. Brandza, Professor of Botany in Bucharest, died August 15, 1895, aged 48 years.

Dr. A. S. Dogiel, of Tomsk, goes to St. Petersburg as Professor of Histology.

Dr. H. Lenk, of Leipzig, has been called to the chair of Geology in Erlangen.

F. Kitton, the student of diatoms, died at Norwich, England, July 22, 1895.

E. J. Chapman, Professor of Geology in Toronto, has resigned his position.

Dr. F. Czapek is now Privat-docent in Botany in the University of Vienna.

Professor Sven Loven, of Stockholm, died Sept. 4, 1895, aged 86 years.

Dr. H. Strahl has been appointed Professor of Anatomy in Giessen.

Dr. P. H. Macgillivray, the student of Australian Polyzoa, is dead.

Dr. M. Miyoshi has been called to the chair of Botany in Tokyo.

Dr. A. Senoner, geologist, died in Vienna, Aug. 30, 1895.

Dr. J. Vesque, botanist, of Vincennes, France, is dead.

Dr. F. Müller, herpetologist, died at Basel in May.